

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
June 2, 2003 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: Brian C. Warburton, Chairman, Virginia Bridle,
William Sullivan, James A. Workman, Cliff Pratt
James S. Barrington, Town Manager
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Bob Houle led the audience in the salute to the flag.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mr. Sullivan thanked everyone who participated or observed the Memorial Day events and the dedication of the September 11th Memorial Monument at the fire station.

Mr. Pratt thanked the Recreation Department for cutting the grass along Lafayette Road and noted that the area looks very good.

Mr. Warburton agreed that the Memorial Day events were very well done and were very touching.

Mr. Warburton noted that many of the Board members attended the retirement party for John Woodburn last week. Mr. Woodburn was commended upon his retirement after 30 years from the Hampton School Board.

III. APPOINTMENTS

1. Colleen Giordano, Project Impact Posters

Mrs. Giordano was joined by Jennifer Kimball, Town Planner, Mr. Tom Gillick, Planning Board Chairman and Hank Lipe, Fire Chief. Mrs. Giordano told the Board that it has been her pleasure to work with the Town of Hampton and she appreciated the tremendous support she received from the Town Manager, Town Planner and Department Heads. Mrs. Giordano told the Board that the most recent activity of Project Impact included a drawing contest for the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades in Hampton and posters have been made of the top three places and magnets were made of the winning entries. The first place winners were presented to the Board: Michelle Dunbar 1st place for third grade; Megan Huffman, 1st place 4th grade; and Sarah Dunbar – 1st place 5th grade.

Mrs. Giordano told the Board that one of the major activities of Project Impact was the effort to become a National Weather Service – Storm Ready Community. Chief Lipe introduced Mr. Al Wheeler, the meteorologist from the Gray, Maine Weather Station and Mr. John Jersenius, from the State Emergency Management Office. Chief Lipe said that the Town has been working on this project for 18 months and is pleased to become the first town in New Hampshire to be declared a “Storm Ready Community”.

Mr. Wheeler thanked the Board of Selectmen and recognized the efforts of the town staff to become storm ready. Mr. Wheeler said that the weather service issues watches and warnings to alert people to threatening weather, and they also rely on other agencies to help get the information out to the people they serve. He added that accurate warnings will do little to save lives unless adequate actions have been taken to prepare for the emergencies, and that is why the Storm Ready Community Program was established. Many aspects of becoming storm ready were accomplished by Hampton, including education, visits to the weather station, acquisition of weather radios and monitoring equipment, training of staff to recognize storm conditions and production of Emergency Preparedness materials. Mr. Wheeler was proud to announce that Hampton has met all of the requirements to become the first town in New Hampshire to earn this designation. He thanked Chief Lipe and Colleen Giordano, Project Impact Coordinator for their efforts.

Mr. Wheeler presented the Town Manager with a letter designating Hampton as a Storm Ready Community and two road signs to be displayed indicating the designation.

Chief Lipe said that with the experiences he has had at the National Hurricane Center and the Gray, Maine Weather Service he has gained a greater appreciation for the hard work that goes on at the weather services.

Mrs. Giordano presented the Board with an Emergency Preparedness video that is about 15 minutes in length that has been developed to help residents prepare for emergencies and outline the resources that are available.

Mr. Warburton thanked Mrs. Giordano for her efforts with Project Impact and presented to her a Certificate of Appreciation from the Board of Selectmen.

2. Mr. Bob Houle, Chamber of Commerce, Re: Sand Sculpture Competition and other events

Mr. Warburton said that three years ago the Hampton Beach Precinct along with the Chamber of Commerce put together a master sand sculpting competition. This has become an outstanding event that brings families to the beach, with this year's event scheduled for June 13 – 26, 2003. Mr. Houle said that this has been a cooperative effort between the State, Chamber, Precinct and Town and he thanked the town for all of their assistance. He noted that this event brings an incredible amount of goodwill and publicity to Hampton, NH. He noted that there was an article in a German tourist guide this year highlighting the event.

Mr. Greg Grady thanked the Board for the help last year; he told the Board that due to the quality of the event he gets a great response from sculptors from all over the world. Volunteers are needed to help shovel sand, hand out brochures and provide security at night. People can sign up at the chamber beach office.

Mr. Skip Windemiller asked for the same help from the town that they have had in the past, which includes the use of snow fence, transporting water and overnight police security on Thursday, June 19th and Friday, June 20th.

Mr. Workman said that it is a wonderful event and he is willing to help in any reasonable way. Mr. Sullivan agreed, noting that Hampton Beach is a major industry for the town.

The consensus of the Board was that the Town will provide the same level of assistance as last year, including overnight police security on June 19th & 20th.

3. CLD Engineers – Exeter Road Bridge

JoAn Fryer, CLD Engineers explained that they have been hired by the town to do the conceptual design for the replacement of the Exeter Road bridge and road re-alignment. She said that goal is to replace and upgrade the bridge to meet current load standards and improve the geometry of the intersection to have a more efficient flow of traffic. Some traffic studies have been completed and conceptual designs have been drawn for the Board's input. Ms. Fryer said that the alignment that is being proposed would result in a new bridge closer to Depot Square, which would align Exeter Road with High Street. The traffic analysis showed that the significant improvements are limited due to the proximity of buildings on Route 1. The proposed alignment meets a 30 mph standard and will work whether there is an at-grade or bridge crossing. Ms. Fryer outlined the proposed changes and noted concerns with an at-grade crossing. The engineers would like to try and incorporate some of the historic themes of Hampton in the reconstruction to help mitigate the loss of some historic buildings.

Mr. Sullivan said that there is the potential of abandonment of the rail line. Mr. Barrington said that there has been some communication about that. Ms. Fryer said that she has discussed this with Foss and they would not like to see that happen; she added that the Department of Transportation has indicated that if Guilford did abandon it, they would likely take over the line and find a carrier to maintain it. Mr. Sullivan said that the owner of the property on the left hand side has had concerns about drainage and he asked if that has been looked at. Mr. Barrington said that is being considered and they realize that it is a problem.

that will need to be addressed. Mrs. Bridle said that an at-grade crossing requires school busses to stop and there would be a major traffic problem during the school times. Ms. Fryer said that they are not recommending the at-grade crossing, but for due diligence they did want to research and present the option to the Board.

Mr. Sullivan asked about the right-turn movement south onto Lafayette Road, and if it would be a yield or signalization. Ms. Fryer said that they have not done the signalization study at this point.

Mr. Barrington explained that the concepts have been presented to him, and one of the aesthetic things he likes is making this a gateway to downtown. The parking is a consideration and the green space would be eligible for funding through the relocation of the roadbed. Mr. Sullivan noted that the new bridge in Newfields is beautiful. Mr. Pratt asked how much space would be gained along side the Old Salt. Ms. Fryer said there would be approximately 75 feet gained. Mr. Sullivan said that when the signalization is looked at, the pedestrian crossing signal should be looked at.

Mr. Barrington said that the bridge is on the state's red list and it is rated for 11 tons. The State has entered into an agreement with the railroad to take ownership of the bridge and it will be turned over to the town. The work which includes the land acquisition, engineering, construction and landscaping will be covered 80% from Federal, 10% from State and 10% local costs. Mr. Barrington said that it is anticipated that the engineering phase will be finished in 2003, with the land acquisition being funded in 2004 and the construction in 2005. Mr. Sullivan asked if the Board could consider a walkway under the bridge to cross the road, as long as it did not conflict with handicapped accessibility issues and it was well lighted.

Ms. Fryer told the Board that CLD would like to wrap up the preliminary study phase of this project within the next month and then meet with utilities and negotiate with property owners. Mr. Barrington will work with the Board on the schedule.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

SRF Funding

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he and Mr. Hangen met with DES on May 21 to discuss the SRF funding for the Beach Infrastructure project. After a productive exchange of information, George McMennamin requested a second meeting with him and some of the technical people in Concord on May 30th to further clarify some of their remaining questions. The meeting resulted in some very worthwhile discussions. DES has a modified design/build approach that they recommended to us. Mr. Barrington said that it was his opinion that this compromise appears to meet the criteria the town was seeking by the design/build, but it also offers the town some financing arrangements that can virtually eliminate the arbitrage concerns. After meeting with the wastewater staff for over two hours, they were joined by the people in the water division for further discussions of water supply, conservation potentials and some "cutting edge" ideas that have potential for eliminating our supply shortages. The question is always how the water needs are going to be met for the number of people that come to Hampton. There are water source potentials in North Hampton, although they are not anxious to give water to Hampton, just as Hampton is not anxious to provide sewer service to North Hampton. A cross connection for water with Exeter is also being discussed. One of the other ideas discussed was the pumping of Hampton's effluent to the head of a water treatment plant. Although this is not popular politically, it is technically very feasible. Mr. Barrington said systems like this have been in use in Europe for many years.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen sign the SRF agreements in the amounts of \$2,200,000 and \$5, 275,000.

Mr. Workman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Reddington Landing Easement

Mr. Barrington told the Board that Mr. Kevin Durant, of Reddington Landing, has been discussing with the town his desire that the Town abandon some easements that cross his property. His property is the last house on the northwest side of the cul-de-sac at the end of Reddington Landing. After much discussion involving John Hangen, Jennifer Kimball, and Mark Gearreald, Public Works has come to the conclusion that the Town could probably safely abandon the sewer easement along the northern boundary of his property. Planning Board records do not show anything to indicate the need for the easement from the history of the approvals of the development. Attorney Gearreald recommends that if the Board is willing to proceed with the request, we should use the RSA 41:14-a process that will involve two public hearings by the Board following recommendations by the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission. There is also a utility easement. He would like to build a garage on the back of his property, which would encroach, into the sewer easement, but not into the utility easement. The soonest the Board of Selectmen could hold the first public hearing would be June 30, the second hearing could be on July 14th with a vote on July 28th.

Mr. Pratt asked if the Planning Board has a record of why the easement was put on. Mr. Barrington said that it appeared that there was some discussion about it, but there was no clear reason why it was included. Mr. Barrington said that there may be a private manhole in the vicinity. The number of different developers that have been involved in this street may have caused a lot of the confusion.

Attorney Gearreald talked about this and wondered if Mr. Durant has an attorney that is helping him with this. Attorney Gearreald said that if he were representing someone with a matter such as this, he would want to have every owner within the plat sign a release of the sewer easement, as well as the release from the town.

Mr. Pratt recommended that the Board hold off on scheduling a public hearing until Mr. Durant indicates if he wants to move forward with releases from the abutting properties.

Beach Traffic Circulation Study

Mr. Barrington reported that he expects to sign the contract with Rizzo Associates for the Beach Traffic Circulation study this week. The price had to be negotiated to fit the project within the budget, but it appears that we have an agreement has been reached and that the study can be completed this summer.

Emergency Drill

The emergency management drill for the weapons of mass destruction went well. It was a large-scale undertaking with dozens of participants from Federal, State, and local agencies. Mr. Barrington stated that from all indications, it was a successful day of training and lessons learned.

Winnacunnet High School Traffic Study

Assistant Superintendent Fred Engelbach came to see the Town Manager this week about a traffic study that Winnacunnet High School is considering. The Winnacunnet School Board is once again discussing the possibility of opening an additional entrance/exit from WHS onto Winnacunnet Road between Park Avenue and Landing Road. The preliminary indications for the plan indicate that they may want to make some recommendations regarding the alignment of Park Avenue and Landing Road as well. One other issue Mr. Engelbach raised was the potential of the Town joining the school in funding the study. Mr. Barrington said that he told him that if the WHS school board decides they wish to pursue the study and do not have the funds for the job, the town would consider their request for a partnership, but until the details were clarified, he would make no commitments beyond bringing the request to the Board of Selectmen for consideration. This issue has been discussed previously on a number of occasions.

All Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mr. Barrington told the Board that Jane Hubbard held a meeting this week to organize the work effort for the development of the All Hazard Mitigation Plan as one of the final components in the completion of the Project Impact grant.

Police Facility

As of Monday afternoon, the Town had heard that six of the ten pre-qualified bidders on the police station have picked up bid specification packages. The bids are scheduled to be opened on Tuesday, June 17. Three sets of the plans were delivered to the Town. One is at the Town Manager's Office, one at the Police Department, and one in the Building Inspector's Office. There is a pre-bid conference on June 3rd at 1:00 PM at the Town Office.

District Court

Representative Mike O'Neil has been working with the Town Manager to set up a meeting with Don Hill concerning the possible use of the state-owned land between the Park 'n Ride and the DOT Salt Shed as a site for a new Hampton-Exeter District Courthouse. That meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m. on June 6th. Mr. Sullivan indicated that unless the Board objected, he would be attending that meeting.

Police Grant

Mr. Barrington announced that the police department has been awarded a grant of \$15,000 for enforcement of underage drinking laws.

Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen hold a public hearing on June 16, 2003 to accept the grant of \$15,000 for the police departments efforts to enforce underage drinking laws.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Hampton Beach Commission

The Hampton Beach Commission Bill has now become law and the Board of Selectmen need to be looking to appoint representatives to that in the near future.

Shaaake Land Swap

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he had a discussion with Mr. Fred Schaaake about his desire to acquire a portion of the town parking lot on the corner of Ocean Boulevard in exchange for some land he owns behind the condos. Mr. Shaaake indicates that he needs the town land to provide additional parking and loading areas for his business. The land he will trade is wet and filled with fragmites, which have been the center of some controversy. Mr. Pratt said he would like to see a map of the proposed parcels. Mr. Barrington said that he will provide that for the next meeting.

Drakeside Road Pump Station

Mr. Barrington reported that there has been some recent correspondence from Mr. Hangen to Mr. Nigrelli in regard to the pump station construction on Drakeside Road. It appears that Mr. Nigrelli is trying hard to meet the deadline of the end of June.

State Fire Training Program

Mr. Barrington updated the Board on the concern of Chief Lipe in regard to the C2F2 program the State is requiring. Chief Lipe's primary concern is with the requirement for night training. The Fire Commission has adopted some contradictory standards that now eliminate the overnight training, but maintain the overnight residency requirement.

Water Supply

Mr. Workman said that there is a huge hurdle for him to get over to consider making effluent into potable water. Mr. Sullivan said that it is done in some places Florida, but the water is not used for drinking, it is used for washing vehicles, watering lawns, laundry and other exterior purposes. He would not be opposed to looking into it.

Mr. Sullivan noted that Aquarian may be satisfied with the age of their pipes at the beach, but he asked if Chief Lipe is satisfied with the flow rate for fire protection purposes. Mr. Barrington said he will discuss that with him, noting that there is a 12" main on Ashworth Avenue, that goes down to a 6" line. There is also an interconnection with Seabrook for fire purposes.

Mr. Pratt said that he feels the changing of effluent to potable water would be a hard sell. Mrs. Bridle said that the Board needs to look at the water situation, because there is a need all over town.

Hampton Beach Commission

Mr. Sullivan asked if anyone has expressed desire to be part of the Hampton Beach Commission. Mr. Warburton said that he has had interest from a couple of people. Mr. Warburton noted that the Board of Selectmen appoints two members.

Park & Ride

Mr. Pratt asked if Mr. Barrington had checked the ownership of the land near the State Park and Ride. Mr. Barrington said he had not done that. Mr. Sullivan said that the land may belong to Wheelabrator.

Consideration of Historic Barn Easements

Mr. Warburton reviewed the process that the Board has followed with the easements for the historic barns that have applied for this new provision.

Mr. Pratt said that he has put together a proposal for the easements for the Board to consider based on his inspections of the barn. He is recommending a 75% easement for the Towle barn because it has been documented historically and is rated one of the top ten barns in New Hampshire. The Riley barn is probably in the best condition and has been fixed up nicely and he is recommending a 60% easement. Mr. Pratt said that he is recommending 50% easements for the Palmer and McDermott barns because of the level of historic value and noted that they have been well cared for. The Janetos barn is being recommended for a 35% easement as a result of the history of the Fogg family and it has been fixed up nicely. The other four applicants. Skoglund, Erwin, Cropper and Stukowski are being recommended for 25% easements based on the level of documentation and the current conditions

The Board members agreed to defer to Mr. Pratt's expertise in this area and expressed their appreciation for his efforts.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board award historic barn easements or a ten-year period, to the following properties: Towle – 105 Towle Farm Road – 75%; Riley – 641 Exeter Road – 60%; Palmer – 204-206 Winnacunnet Road – 50%; McDermott – 222 Winnacunnet Road – 50%; Janetos – 28 Park Avenue – 35%; Skoglund – 25%; Erwin – 205 Winnacunnet Road – 25%; Cropper – 67 North Shore Road – 25%; Stukowski – 25%.

Mr. Sullivan SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Pratt pointed out that other residents with historic barns are welcome to apply for this easement for the next tax year, prior to April 15, 2004.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Westport Parking Leases

Mr. Barrington explained that the Westport was the business that had some parking spaces that were abused last year. They have applied for the parking leases again this year and he has denied those leases. The owner is welcome to utilize the parking lot on a daily basis as any other vehicle may.

Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED to support the Manager's decision to not renew the leases for the Westport.

Mr. Workman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Master Plan Land Use Subcommittee – Request for Representative

Mr. Warburton explained that the Planning Board is forming a subcommittee to work on the land use chapter of the Master Plan and has requested that a member of the Board of Selectmen be appointed to this subcommittee.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that Mr. Sullivan be appointed as the Selectmen's representative to the Land Use Subcommittee for the Master Plan.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

IAFF Local 2664 – Request for MDA Boot Drive – August 17, 2003

Mr. Workman MOTIONED that the permit be approved for the IAFF Boot Drive to support MDA on August 17, 2003.

Mr. Sullivan SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Warburton noted that many of the Selectmen will help with the drive.

Hampton Beach Commission

Mr. Warburton said that with the passage of the Act to establish the Hampton Beach Commission, the Board of Selectmen needs to appoint two members.

Mr. Warburton told the Board that Mr. Rice has expressed an interest in being appointed to this.

Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED that Mr. Fred Rice be appointed to the Hampton Beach Commission.

Mr. Pratt SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED that Mr. Workman be appointed to the Hampton Beach Commission.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

Mr. Workman said that he would have no problem doing this but explained that he has been on the Beach Master Plan Committee since 1999 and would be willing to have another resident represent the town.

Mr. Sullivan MOVED the question.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

**Main Motion: VOTE: 4 FOR
1 ABSTAIN (Workman)**

State Budget

Mr. Pratt said that before the budget is passed for the State this year, it may be wise for the Selectmen to have the State representatives in to explain how the proposed cuts could impact the town. The Board agreed that the State Representatives and State Senator should be invited to attend the June 16th meeting. Mr. Sullivan said that the State Police budget cuts do not impact Hampton Beach as much as some people think, but he does have some concerns how that could impact Hampton's over-time budget.

Budget Committee Report

Mrs. Bridle said that she attended the Budget Committee meeting last week and they forwarded some requests for their September meeting. They would like a list of police vehicles, and noted their appreciation for the lists received from the other departments. They would also like to know the total bonded indebtedness of the town and any pending legal judgments that could effect taxes. The Budget Committee also asked that the Board of Selectmen request the tax rate setting meeting to be held in Hampton this year.

DRED Proposal

Mrs. Bridle asked if the Board is going to respond to Mr. McLeod's letter regarding beach parking for residents. Mr. Barrington said that he would like to have Mrs. Duhamel look at the fiscal impact of the proposal before responding. Mrs. Bridle said she was not in favor of the proposal. The Board will discuss this on the June 16th agenda.

Downtown Police Presence

Mr. Sullivan asked if it would be possible to have a police officer located in the center of town, Friday and Saturdays, from 10:00AM to 4:00 PM. Mr. Barrington will discuss that with Chief Wrenn.

Mr. Warburton read a letter that he received from Mr. Dick Ballou in support of the Board's efforts to keep the District Court in Hampton. The letter will be copied for the Board members.

VI. MINUTES

The minutes of May 19, 2003 were accepted as written.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Parade Permit – Harley Davidson
2. Request for Entertainment Permit – Blue Iguana
3. Welfare Lien Release
4. Coin Operated Amusement Permits

Mr. Workman MOTIONED that the consent agenda items be approved.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the meeting be adjourned. (9:30 PM)

Mr. Sullivan SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman